

**MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION  
CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR  
SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGICAL EXAMINER**

**I. PROFESSIONAL REQUIREMENTS**

The school psychological examiner, initial student services certificate, valid for a period of four (4) years from the effective date on the certificate, will be issued to those persons meeting the following requirements:

- A.** Completion of a master's degree from a college or university meeting approval of the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education in one (1) of the following areas:
  - 1. Counseling Psychology;
  - 2. Educational Psychology;
  - 3. School Counseling; and
  - 4. Education;
- B.** Recommendation for certification from the designated official of a college or university approved to train elementary and secondary counselors by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education;
- C.** Completion of a course in Psychology and/or Education of the Exceptional Child for a minimum of two (2) semester hours;
- D.** A minimum of twenty-four (24) semester hours of professional preparation at the graduate level with competencies demonstrated in all areas listed to the satisfaction of a college or university meeting approval of the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, including a supervised internship or field experience in school psychological assessment of at least one hundred fifty (150) hours in an appropriate school setting:

**Courses Areas**

- 1. Psychological Development: child, adolescent, or developmental psychology;
- 2. Psychology of Education;
- 3. Statistical methods;
- 4. Mental Hygiene or Psychology of Personality;
- 5. Psychological Tests and Measures for the Analysis of Student Performance;
- 6. Individual Intelligence Tests;
- 7. Individual Diagnostic Assessment (other than the Wechsler and Binet); and
- 8. Supervised practicum of at least one hundred fifty (150) hours in an educational or clinical setting with children and youth of school age in the administration and interpretation of individual intelligence tests, formal and informal diagnostic procedures and the application of the information to develop instructional strategies.

**Competencies**

- 1. Methods and/or techniques of interpretation of tests;
  - 2. Analysis and diagnosis of learning problems including special consideration of low incidence populations;
  - 3. Interpretation of formal and informal diagnostic assessments and their application for prescriptive instruction;
  - 4. Utilization of knowledge of classroom environment, psychological principles, and test data to plan for management of special needs children;
  - 5. Diagnostic interviewing techniques;
  - 6. Process of staffing with other professionals to develop instructional strategies; and
  - 7. Administration and interpretation of the Wechsler and Binet.
- [ **E.** *Must achieve a score equal to or greater than the Missouri qualifying score on the assessments designated by the State Board of Education, not to include the principles of learning and teaching.*]

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**II. CAREER CONTINUOUS STUDENT SERVICES CERTIFICATE**

- A. The school psychological examiner, career continuous student services certificate will be issued upon completion and verification of the following:
  - 1. Four (4) years of state-approved school psychological examiner experience;
  - 2. Participation in two (2) years of district-provided mentoring (during the first two (2) years of student services experience);
  - 3. The development, implementation and completion of a professional development plan of at least forty (40) contact hours of professional development, or three (3) semester hours of graduate credit toward an advanced degree; and
  - 4. Successful participation in an annual performance-based evaluation.
- B. The school psychological examiner, career continuous student services certificate will remain valid upon verification of the following:
  - 1. Participation in a performance-based system of evaluation; and
  - 2. Participation in twenty (20) contact hours of professional development annually.
- C. The school *[psychologist]* **psychological examiner**, career continuous student services certificate holder is exempt from additional professional development if the holder has a local professional development plan in place with the school and meets at least two (2) of the following:
  - 1. Ten (10) years of state-approved school psychological examiner experience;
  - 2. An educational specialist's degree in school psychology or a closely related field; and/or
  - 3. Certification from a board-approved nationally recognized professional school psychology organization.